

February 26, 2010

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

A bulletin to keep you and your neighbors informed of current news and happenings in our community. If you do not get this bulletin directly, feel free to email me at cbball@howardcountymd.gov and I will be sure to get you on the list.

For more District 2 News go to our website at:

www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm

Howard County Supports Haiti Disaster Efforts!

Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Haiti as they struggle to recover from this terrible earthquake. Several organizations have already mobilized resources and are on the ground in Haiti right now. Listed below are some organizations and links to ways you can support their critical work.

- **American Red Cross:** Donate online at <http://www.redcross.org> or donate \$10.00 by texting “HAITI” to “90999”.
 - **Doctors Without Borders:** <http://doctorswithoutborders.org/>
 - **Partners in Health:** <http://pih.org/home.html>
 - **InterAction:** <http://www.interaction.org/crisis-list/earthquake-haiti>
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Survive the Recession!!!

Howard County’s Housing will host a three-part educational series, “Surviving the Recession.” Workshops are FREE, however seating is limited and reservations are required. To make your reservation, please call (410) 313-3441.

Session #3 “Homeownership: Securing Your Most Valuable Asset” will be held Saturday, **March 20, 2010 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** located at **6751 Columbia Gateway Drive in Room 6.**

For more information on the series or to learn about homeownership opportunities in Howard County and the upcoming Housing Fair, contact **Howard County Housing** at **(410) 313-6320** or visit them online at www.ComeHometoHouseCounty.org.

2010 Annual Financial Literacy Event: Money Matters!!!

Howard County **Councilmember Calvin Ball**, in partnership with the **Howard County Library** and **Howard Community College**, will sponsor the fourth annual financial literacy event entitled “Money Matters: A Community Fun and Activity Fair” on **Saturday, May, 1, 2010** from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** located at **Howard County Library’s East Columbia Branch, 6600 Cradlerock Way, Columbia MD 21045.**

This event is **FREE** for children, teens, adults and seniors. For more information or to register as a vendor or sponsor, please contact **Kimberly Pruim** at **(410) 313-2001** or via email at kpruim@howardcountymd.gov.

Howard County’s GreenFest!!!

The 3rd Annual GreenFest will be held **Saturday, April 17, 2010** from **10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** at **Howard Community College’s Burrill Galleria, 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, MD.**

For more information, contact **Lindsay DeMarzo**, Event Coordinator at **410-313-4374** or ldemarzo@howardcountymd.gov.

Nominate Outstanding People and Organizations Helping Children!!!

Do you know any people or organizations making a positive impact on the lives of Howard County children? Nominations are now being accepted for people or programs including mentors, child care providers, Scout leaders,

coaches, human service workers, volunteers, businesses and school or camp programs for their outstanding contributions to our students.

Categories include: Infants and Toddlers (0-3 years), Pre-School (3-5 years), Elementary School (Kindergarten through 5th Graders), Middle School (6th through 8th Graders), High School (9th through 12th Graders), Youth Award, and Family Friendly Business Award. Individual nominees do not need to be a Howard County resident; however, program or business nominees must be located in Howard County.

The 11th Annual “Celebrating Successes for Children” ceremony will be held **Thursday, April 29, 2010** and will be hosted by County Executive Ken Ulman and the Howard County Office of Children’s Services.

Nominations must be faxed to **(410) 313-1430**, delivered or postmarked by **Friday, March 26, 2010**. To request a nomination form, contact the Office of Children’s Services at **(410) 313-1940**, email **Priscilla Kung** at pkung@howardcountymd.gov, or go online at www.howardcountymd.gov/children.

Leadership U is Now Recruiting High School Sophomores!!!

Leadership U is looking for high school sophomores to participate in next year’s class! This program helps students entering their junior year develop leadership skills by working in teams to discuss, reflect upon and develop solutions for problems that affect them and their peers in the community.

Attendance in a week long summer session beginning **July 25, 2010 through July 30, 2010**, completion of a team community service project, and participation in “Shadow Day” are all required. Applications are available in Student Services or at www.leadershiphc.org. Cost is \$750 and financial assistance is available. The application deadline is **March 12, 2010**.

For additional information, please contact **Diane Freedman** at dfreedman@leadershiphc.org or visit their website at http://leadershiphc.org/LHC/Leadership_U.aspx

Journey 2010 Summer Program Now Accepting Applications!!!

The Women's Giving Circle of Howard County is now accepting applications for its residential summer camp, Journey 2010. This camp will include 40 girls entering 8th-9th grade in the fall of 2010 and will begin **Sunday, June 27, 2010** through **Saturday, July 2, 2010** held at Washington College in Chestertown, MD. The girls will live in college dorms, eat in the college cafeteria, and experience a collegiate atmosphere during the week-long program.

Applicants should have some previous experience in leading her peers, a willingness to try new experiences in a safe environment and a desire to serve her community. The camp is restricted to girls who are living in Howard County and now attending the seventh and eighth grade. The cost to attend is \$550 and financial assistance is available. Applications can be obtained at www.womensgivingcircle.org and are also available in guidance offices at local middle schools. Applications must be postmarked by **March 30, 2010**, but priority will be given to applications based on the date received. For further information, contact journeydirector@gmail.com.

Advancing Career Opportunities for Women!

A **FREE** seminar will be held on **Sunday, March 13, 2010** from **3-5 p.m.** presented by The Women's Giving Circle of Howard County with support from The John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Math Engineering Science Achievement (MESA), Maryland Space Business Roundtable and Multinational Development of Women in Technology (MDWIT). This event will be held at the Kossiakoff Center located at The John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, 11100 John Hopkins Road, Laurel, MD 20723.

Attendees will be able to talk with Professional Women in STEM Careers: Aerospace, Computer Science, Mathematics, Geology, Information Technology, Engineering, Space Science, Chemistry and more. Demonstrations, Displays, Hands-On activities and Career information will be available and parents are encouraged to bring their daughters!

For more information, contact womensgivingcircle@verizon.net.
Directions are available online at www.jhuapl.edu.

Military Information Night!

I invite you to attend the Military Information Night **Wednesday, March 24, 2010** from 7:00pm to 9pm at River Hill High School, 12101 Route 108 in Clarksville, MD. This event is hosted by the Howard County Public School System's Office of School Counseling. Parents and students of all ages are welcome to attend!

The following will be in attendance offering information about their program: Representatives from the five military academies, Representatives from the offices of Senator Ben Cardin and Barbara Mikulski and Congressman Elijah Cummings to review the Academic Nomination Process for Academy Appointments, Representatives from colleges with military programs, ROTC officers, JROTC program officers and students from the Atholton, Howard and Oakland Mills JROTC programs, and Enlistment recruiters.

For more information, contact **Patti Caplan**, APR, Director of Public Relations at **410-313-6680** or email patti_caplan@hcpss.org.

Robert Fulton Drive Intersection Project!

A Howard County project to modify the left turn operation at the traffic signal at Robert Fulton Drive and Solar Walk in Columbia is now underway. Currently, the light only allows vehicles headed east on Robert Fulton Drive to turn left onto Commerce Center Drive when the signal indicates a green left turn arrow.

Following the modification, motorists who first come to a full stop and yield to oncoming traffic will be able to turn left when a red left turn arrow is flashing. As part of the modification, a sign will also be installed next to the left turn signal alerting motorists to the change. Weather permitting, the new traffic arrow will be in effect on or about Wednesday, March 10, 2010.

For questions or concerns about this project, contact **Lisa Brightwell**, Public Works Customer Service at **410-313-3440** or by email to publicworks@howardcountymd.gov

Dobbin Road Addition in Process!

A Howard County construction project is currently under way at the intersection of Dobbin Road and Dobbin Center Way, south of Route 175. Included in this project will be the construction of a right turn lane from southbound Dobbin Road onto west bound Dobbin Center Way.

During work hours, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. the existing right lane on southbound Dobbin Road may be closed. For questions or concerns, about Capital Project J-4211, contact **Lisa Brightwell**, Public Works Customer Service at **410-313-3440** or by email to publicworks@howardcountymd.gov

Howard County Parks and Recreation Submits its FY09 Annual Report!

The Howard County Department of Recreation & Parks has released its FY09 Annual Report. To view this report online, please visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP/RAPDocs/AnnRept09.pdf>

For more information, please contact **Gary Arthur** at **(410) 313-4700**.

Partnership Promotes Peaceful Conflict Resolution!!!

A NEW partnership with the Mediation & Conflict Resolution Center (MCRC) at Howard Community College (HCC) will help students and staff at the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) develop skills for peacefully resolving conflicts.

For more information on the HCPSS Partnerships Office, please contact **Joan Fox**, Partnerships Office at (410) 313-6658 or joan_r_fox@hcpss.org or **Patti Caplan**, Director of Public Relations, HCPSS at (410) 313-6680 or patti_caplan@hcpss.org. The website can be accessed at www.hcpss.org/aboutus/partnership. The MCRC located at HCC can be viewed at www.howardcc.edu/Visitors/mcrc.

Panhandling in Howard County!

We have received many concerns from our residents about panhandling within our District. I would like to take a moment to discuss the law within Howard County and the ways we can work together to combat this issue.

On **October 1, 2009**, the **Vehicle Law Section 21-507(h)** was amended to address concerns over panhandling within Howard County. The law states that “In Howard County, a person may not stand in a State Highway or the Highway Right-Of-Way to solicit money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle.”

Please join me in addressing our concerns. If you see a person panhandling, contact the police immediately at **911** or call the non-emergency line at **(410) 313-4750**.

Jeffers Hill Watershed Mitigation Site!

The Columbia Association (CA) will be installing a Watershed Mitigation Site along the streambed by Footed Ridge & Watchlight Court in Jeffers Hill between **November 2009** and **March 2010**. To see a detailed version of the plans, please visit <http://www.longreach.org>

If you have further questions please contact **Diana Kelley** at (410) 381-2947 or send an email to dianakelley@columbiaassociation.com

What to Know if You See Snow!!

The Howard County Department of Public Works is responsible for removing snow from our county roads. We proudly have more than 100 snow removal vehicles and have approximately 11,000 tons of salt stored in salt barns throughout Howard County.

The activities of the snow removal trucks can be followed by logging into the Howard County Homepage at www.howardcountymd.gov and click the “Snow Plow Tracker” icon or accessed directly at <http://snow2.co.ho.md.us/Index.asp>. You will then see a map of the county which shows the status of the county’s roads, whether they have been plowed or treated with de-icing materials.

Going Green!!

FREE Paper bags used for Yard waste are now available at The Other Barn. **Limit:** 2 Bags per Household.

“Did you know? Howard County encourages residents to use reusable containers or paper bags for yard waste rather than plastic. Why? Paper bags will biodegrade with the yard trimmings and improve the quality of the finished compost. The bags are easy to fill and more resistant to punctures and tears.” FREE paper bags are available from The Other Barn, Oakland Mills Community Association; the Recycling Division at **6751 Columbia Gateway Dr., Suite 514**; or the Alpha Ridge Landfill in Marriottsville. Quantities are limited. Visit www.howardcountyrecycles.org or call **(410) 313-6444** for more information.

Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard County Police Department and the community designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community’s power of observation, and to encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors. For more information please contact the Howard County Police Department at **410-313-2200**.

Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents age 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of **Howard County's toll free number: 1-800-506-5806.**

We Want To Hear From You!

The link below will navigate you to a list of meetings open to the public. If you have specific questions, please call the contact number listed for that meeting. http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG_Portal_PublicMeetings.htm

How Can You Participate in Howard County Government?

This is your chance to stay informed and involved! Your comments are welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email or fax. All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042.** Click the following link for the Council's calendar of meetings
http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC_Legislative_CouncilCalendar.htm

View the Council's Current Legislation and Stay Informed

The County Council is responsible for adopting laws within Howard County. The legislative process generally follows a monthly cycle. To view legislation under consideration by the Council, please click on the following link http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative_Pending.htm

Boards and Commissions Vacancies

Persons interested in applying for a Board or Commission position are invited to view the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/PortalServices/HC_BoardsandCommissions.htm

For additional news and events, please visit the Howard County Calendar of Events at http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG_Portal_CalendarofEvents.htm.

Dr. Calvin Ball

Council Member, District 2

http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/Dist2_Bio.htm

410-313-2001

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat." - Teddy Roosevelt